

The Ontario Argus

M. E. BAIN, Publisher.

Subscription \$1.00 a year
Always in advance

Published Every Thursday.

Entered in the Post Office at Ontario, Oregon, for transmission through the mails as second class matter.

PERMANENT ROADS.

We hear an occasional grunt about the roads of this county and the way the road money is expended or thrown away. Probably more money is wasted on the roads of this and every other county in Oregon than in any other public improvement. The principal cause is the utter lack of system. It is only the permanent work on roads that count, the patching is but a makeshift that will have to be done over in a few months. But the people are to blame for the lack of a system, because they all want the permanent roads constructed just their homes, and the officials are up in the air as to what to do. At present they are graveling the wagon road up at Vale leading east, and we hear lots of howling. The work of making permanent improvements on the roads must be started some place and the county seat is the logical point. Place all the work on one road until that is constructed, then take up another trunk road in another direction, until all sections of the county have been reached, then start in on the lateral roads. That is the only system that will bring good roads at a small annual outlay. The outlying sections will not be satisfied until they are reached and then the benefit of the policy will be realized.

Automobile accidents are becoming altogether too common. Occasionally the trouble is with the car, but generally the driver is at fault. Railroads catch a car every few days and drivers must respect the fact that the freight and passenger trains are too heavy for them to butt off the track. Drivers occasionally become careless and allow the car to run without having the wheel under control, the car strikes a chuck hole or rock and the car is over before the driver can regain control.

The pioneers of Oregon were forced to undergo many hardships in carving out homes in the wilderness. To help those pioneers, the federal government granted to the Oregon-California railroad company a large grant of land to assist in building that road and to give to Oregon more settlers and more taxable property. The government received its pay, all it ever expected, in the building of the road and the concessions received. Had the land grant been disposed of according to the terms of the grant, Oregon would be profiting today by more acres of taxable lands and many more settlers. Oregon alone is the sufferer, yet when these lands are disposed of according to the bill recently passed she gets but 50 per cent of the proceeds.

Thousands of acres of arid lands thirsting for water, yet 40 per cent of the land grant fund go to the general reclamation fund instead of to these lands.

Representative Sinnott is making a last fight for the 40 per cent and has introduced a bill amending the original bill, asking that the proceeds from sale of land and timber apportioned to the general reclamation fund be expended on projects in the State of Oregon.

Is there any injustice in this request? Is this state asking anything unreasonable? Did the federal government or any of the reclamation states expect to get anything from these lands under the original grant, and? Oregon did expect something from the original grant, so why should she not expect it now. It seems that there is little room for argument as to the real merits of the issue, but it is necessary to present the facts to those who should know.

If the members of congress are given the facts with regard to this there is some hope that they will see the justice of it and vote to give to our state that to which she is entitled. Personal letters to members of congress or to persons who may have influence will prove an effective means. Write such a letter and by so doing contribute your part in securing this fund for Oregon's arid lands.

Quiet conference are going on from day to day and we expect cyclones to burst upon us any old time now. The democrats are greatly worried over the fact that there is nothing but unity in the republican ranks. Their endeavor to stir up the past discord will prove futile. "We ask a regular vote."

NON-PARTISAN ABRADACABRA.

The true interpretation of "non-partisan" is for the dominating party to elect minority candidates. That is what it amounts to in Malheur county. With a normal republican vote of two to one the county persists in filling most of its offices with democrats. In 1914 the county went for Chamberlain and elected Withycombe. So far as Oregon is concerned Chamberlain has been worse than no senator and this we will demonstrate at the proper time.

We have seen the result of our bad politics throughout the county, state and nation. Notwithstanding the tremendous income of the war material makers in 1916 there have been more business failures in the United States than ever before in any year. If the tremendous influx of money is to the benefit of the nation why is it that the West is anything but prosperous? Why are there 40,000 vacant houses in Los Angeles? Why are the office buildings of our great metropolis vacant and for rent signs adorning half the residence buildings and family flats closing their doors?

Why is it that we cannot get money in our own section? The county clerk fiasco is worthy of note in this connection. The democratic clerk was elected by a great republican vote and the office was democratic. Did the incumbent die? Was he compelled to give up the office? Did he not rather see the handwriting on the wall and seize an office which might perpetuate him in a good government job for four years? Having voluntarily resigned the position, by what method of reasoning does the office remain democratic?

The majority of voters are republican, the county court is completely republican, the democratic officer voluntarily resigned his job and we have a republican official appointed. Immediately our hungry aspirants for political favor shout "give us a non-partisan rule."

Frankly and honestly, gentlemen, we will do nothing of the kind. From now to the end of politics "to the victor, the spoils." If you want an office get on the republican ticket. This year we will vote for unity. This year we will begin our initiate course in honest expression of the will of the majority at the polls. This year we will wipe off the slate and make our county show sanity in selection of officials; sanity in our devotion to republican principles in state and nation.

We shall cease to permit our enemies to feed on our gratuities. We shall cease to furnish jobs and funds for our enemies. Salvation is free, but you must indicate your desire for salvation ere you receive it.

From Hughes to the least of all candidates we will unitedly support the republican ticket. Not only that, but those who are leaving their public business and entering into partisan politics under the "Red-Riding Hood Cover" of non-partisan howl will be remembered in the finish.

This is a republican year and the next administration will remove the southern democracy from power. Its enough to take care of your friends. Let our enemies take care of themselves.

A RIDDLE.

A party of wise ones were discussing politics on the street the other day in a near by town other than Nysa. Among other things entering into the conversation, was that riddle like recall with hirsute appendages with which the Ontario Democrat threatens our saintly County Judge about once every so often and sometimes more frequently. I think the judge was present, if not he ought to have been. "Say Judge," said one, "why don't you fellows get after that Democrat man and whale the whey out of him?"

"You bet," said another, "if one of those alleged newspapers jumps onto me, things will be doing."

"Yes, yes," said the Judge (or would have said if he had been there), "I know, I know, but did you ever hear the story of the elephant and the skunk? I think its one of Mr. E. Sopps latest. No? Never heard it? Well—An elephant was pestered by a ubiquitous skunk which he avoided as much as possible and his friends insisted that he get after the skunk and beat him up. "Yes," said the elephant, "I could beat him up all right but then every one would know I had been fighting a skunk."

In the appropriations for military arms Senator Norris called attention to the curious fact that whenever an appropriation contemplated a purchase, the appropriation was increased and when there was proposed the manufacture of small arms or of anything made by the government, the appropriation was decreased. This having a peculiar look, Senator Norris asked Senator Chamberlain for

an explanation. Mr. Chamberlain became very indignant and in righteous fury claimed honesty for both himself and the committee, of which he was chairman.

Senator Norris replied that he had made no accusations of any kind saying in part:—"there is not any evidence, so far as I know that the committee is working in the interest of the munition plants, except that they are denying the charge when it has not been made. I suppose that might be considered in a trial as proper evidence. 'Methinks the gentleman doth protest too much.'"

Speaker Champ Clark made his political speech the other day and it will soon be franked over the country. In advancing the idea that the democrats should be continued in power he quoted thus:

"I watch the wheels of Nature's may plan,
And read the future in the past of man."

We suppose that the tremendous increase in failures throughout the United States, greater than ever before in the history of the country, notwithstanding the enormous trade balance in favor of the country on account of war orders, is a good thing to perpetuate. Sorry, but we don't see it.

What Oregon needs in the United States senate is someone imbued with state patriotism as well as national. We will never get it by voting for democrats. Nick Sinnott, in the house, fights manfully for the state but with two senators in the upper house against him he has an uphill fight. What we ought to do is to send Sinnott to the senate next time.

It will take 1,000 republican votes to elect a democrat in Malheur county. There is not a shadow of a chance for any of them. They say Moody refused to serve either over or under a republican. Why should 1000 republicans vote for him in that case?

Speaker Clark stated in his political speech that the war caused the dumping of lemons on the U. S. market ruining the California growers. There appeared no statement that the lowering of the tariff on lemons prevented the government from getting the revenue from lemons and that therefore a stamp tax became necessary while the retention of the duty would have saved California. Great heads, these free traders.

If the federal reserve act saved a panic before it became a law will some good dealer in logic explain the reason for the \$500,000,000 of notes which they issued under the Aldrich-Vreeland act. And if it was the notes that saved the day why is the safety attributed to a law that was not in existence?

A few months ago we were peaved at the cold weather and were wishing that summer would hurry along. It is here in all the glory of its scorching rays, and now we are wondering and longing for the good old winter days again. We just never can be satisfied, no matter what we get.

It's too bad the democrats have to hire a republican to represent them editorially. They are endeavoring to create a diversion by attacking the county judge. Stick to your knitting gentlemen this is a republican year and the band wagon is in motion.

President Wilson in his Detroit speech said: "We are done with provincialism in statesmanship in the United States." We sure hope this is true prophesy and shout: Thank God for the change to come next November.

Having put the tariff back on sugar we wonder if a real protest accompanied with a sample of Chinese eggs from Oregon would induce the democrats to put the tariff back on eggs?

Sixty deserving democrats will be furnished jobs at \$10,000 per under the new rural credit law. Who pays them? The borrower of course. Poor devil.

YELLOWSTONE PARK EXCURSIONS.

August 12th, via Hotel Route. August 14 via "Wylie Way." See O. S. L. agents for details and folders. 31-32

We note, too, that the city rubes are scrambling for the high life in the country.

It is leap year, to be sure, but the boys are too bashful and the girls can't pluck up courage.

Herbert Kaufman says that those who know nothing always want to talk about it. Herb ought to know, as he does a lot of it himself.

SEEK TREASURE AT SEA BOTTOM

Expedition Hunts \$1,000,000 Cargo Lost Four Years Ago.

EXPERT DIVERS GOING DOWN

If First Proves Successful Other Sunken Craft Will Be Explored and Efforts to Find Valuables Will Be Made—New Company Financed by Wall Street Men.

A scientific treasure trove expedition backed by wealthy Wall street men, under command of a United States naval expert and advised by government submarine authorities, has reached its operating base. The first objective point of the expedition is the deep sea grave of the Ward liner Merida, which was rammed four years ago by the United Fruit steamship Admiral Farragut and went down fifty-five miles off the Cape Charles light, carrying to the bottom a cargo of silver bars and other treasure valued at more than \$1,000,000.

The expedition includes the steamships Tifana, Fearless and F. H. Beckwith, a wrecking vessel, a yacht and a tug, and is under command of George D. Stillson, for many years in charge of government diving work and the man who raised the submarine F-4 in Honolulu harbor last year.

George D. Stillson, the commander of the expedition, is regarded by navy department experts as the greatest authority on deep sea apparatus in the United States. He left the government service last winter to superintend the submarine operations of a private firm project to photograph under the sea a production of Jules Verne's story "Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea." He has with him on the treasure hunt the government divers and submarine experts who aided him in the film production and in the raising of the F-4 at Honolulu. These divers are equipped with new deep sea apparatus which does not require life lines or air hose connections, and which makes possible long hours of work at great depths.

Carrying a rabbit's foot in your pocket may bring you good luck, but perseverance and hard work gets the mon.

Sea Shore Excursion

To North Beach, Washington

August 9th

Via
OREGON SHORT LINE—
(Union Pacific System)

Get away from the city and business for a few days enjoyment of the cool of the ocean.

\$14.25

From ONTARIO and return.

Tickets limited to August 25th.

Special train service, Boise and west, leaving Boise, 2:10 p. m.

Passengers from points east of Nampa should use train No. 19 or connecting trains.

Ask O. S. L. agents for "North Beach" folder and further details.



TRY SOME

of our ice cream, manufactured in Ontario from the purest of materials. We will deliver free any amount of one gallon or over, any flavor, packed well, for your Sunday dinner.

Morten Bros.

The next time you meet a grouch take a good look at him. It is the way you appear when you are in the same class.

Insurance is a great protection to the widow and children, but the accumulation of a healthy bank account supplies the fun between.

THE MAN

Who buys and reads his home paper demonstrates both his patriotism and his intelligence by the act.

The merchant who buys his printing from his home paper gives a practical demonstration of his belief in the policy of trading at home

This town is made up of two classes of people—those who DO and those who DON'T. Don't be a "don't."

The Ontario Argus
PUBLISHERS, BOOK AND JOB PRINTERS